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The petals, are either totally absent or represented by short linear appendages, and are usually, when present at all, of reduced number. In this case the three abortive stamens are reduced to small appendages or mere pimples. The disappearance of the regular number of stamens and petals is gradual, as in the other stemmed violets (e. g. *V. canadensis* and *V. striata*.)

The presence of cleistogamous flowers in the *Mnemon* group in no way militates directly against the recognition of it as a separate genus, as there are other characters that prompted botanists as early as the very dawn of the science to consider *Viola tricolor* and its associates separate from *Viola odorata*. Ruellius as early as 1542 gave this the name *Pensea* derived from the French *Pensée* whence the common name *Pansy* came. In fact since the cleistogamous flowers in this group when present come before rather than later as in the common violets, it shows that they are of a very different nature having the same character under entirely opposite ecological and physiological conditions. In this sense this very identical characteristic is itself an indication of distinctiveness.

BOOK NOTICE.

"The Genus *Phoradendron*," by William Trelease, Professor of Botany in the University of Illinois, published by the University early in June, is a royal octavo volume, containing 224 pages and 245 plates, with a distribution map.

This monograph of the exclusively American genus to which the mistletoe of the eastern United States belongs contains studies of morphology and geographic distribution, a complete reclassification of these different plants, and descriptions of the 240 species with their 37 varieties recognized as pertaining to the genus. The publication is based on a study of the materials preserved in the great herbaria of the world, from which the descriptions are drawn, and is illustrated by half-tones from photographs of the types, printed on cameo paper, showing in natural size the essential characters of original specimens on which the species are founded. Nine-tenths of these are here figured for the first time.

The work may be secured from the University of Illinois. Price, in paper, \$2.00; cloth, \$2.50 net.

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